

# MID-COAST CORRIDOR TRANSIT PROJECT



Welcome to the August edition of the Mid-Coast Corridor Transit Project eNewsletter. This newsletter will provide you with up-to-date information about this important expansion of San Diego's regional transit system.

#### **SANDAG Board selects LPA for Mid-Coast Corridor Transit Project**

On July 23, 2010, the SANDAG Board of Directors unanimously reconfirmed the previously selected Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA) for the Mid-Coast Corridor Transit Project. One of three light rail transit (LRT) alternatives considered during scoping, LRT 1 is the previously adopted LPA as refined to include direct service to UCSD and UTC. LRT 1 follows the railroad right-of-way north from Old Town Transit Center to Gilman Drive, then crosses to the west side of I-5 to a station at Nobel Drive and continues on to serve the UCSD campus, medical centers on the east side of I-5 and terminate at the Westfield UTC transit center (see map). The Board's motion for approval also included a direction to study the feasibility of an additional station at the VA Hospital. This will be studied as part of the environmental review process.



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In addition to reconfirming LRT 1 as the LPA, the Board voted to advance both LRT 1 and the No-Build Alternative forward for further evaluation in the Mid-Coast Corridor Transit Project draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Subsequent Environmental Impact Report (SEIS/SEIR) and to approve the Mid-Coast Corridor Transit Project Public Involvement Plan.

#### **What's next for the Mid-Coast Corridor Transit Project?**

Now that an LPA has been reconfirmed, SANDAG will begin work on the draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Subsequent Environmental Impact Report (SEIS/SEIS) to assess potential environmental impacts of the project and any mitigation necessary to address potential impacts. The Draft SEIS/SEIR is anticipated to be available for public review and comment in summer 2011. In fall 2010, SANDAG will prepare and submit a Preliminary Engineering application to the Federal Transit Administration. This begins the process of getting the project in the "pipeline" for federal New Starts funding.

#### **Future meetings of the Mid-Coast Corridor Transit Project Working Group**

The PWG will continue to work with SANDAG during the environmental review process. Meetings will continue on a quarterly basis until the Draft SEIS/SEIR is released for public review and comment. Meetings are anticipated to occur in September 2010, January 2011, and April 2011. Meeting agendas and information will be posted on the [Project Working Group Web site](#) in advance of the meetings.

For more information and updates on the Mid-Coast Corridor Transit Project, please visit [www.sandag.org](http://www.sandag.org) or contact the project team at [midcoast@sandag.org](mailto:midcoast@sandag.org) or (619) 595-5620.

#### **What is the Mid-Coast Corridor Transit Project?**

The Mid-Coast Corridor Transit Project will extend transit service from the Old Town Transit Center north to the University City community, serving major destinations including Westfield University Towne Centre shopping mall, UCSD, and downtown San Diego.

